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Lebanon

A security source cited by Beirut radio disclosed that twelve Internal Security Force officers carried out "exploratory" work for the coastal road security plan on 2 January, adding that units of the Internal Security Forces would begin deploying in accordance with the plan early the following morning. In a related report, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon said that the Internal Security Forces will deploy in six locations in the Al-Kharrub region after local militias have removed mines from the main coastal road. As for the issue of kidnapped persons, whose relatives have blocked crossing points between East and West Beirut, the commander of the Phalangist Lebanese Forces called on all parties to release their captives, expressing his own side's readiness in this regard, according to the radio.

In Israel, an IDF radio commentary on the Al-Naqurah talks noted that UN Assistant Secretary General Brian Urquhart has warned Israel that UNIFIL will be disbanded if the Al-Naqurah talks end without an arrangement. However, the assessment in Jerusalem is that the talks will continue beyond 7 January because all the signs indicate that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has allowed Lebanon to present "some kind of new position" which will prevent a crisis in the talks, according to the radio. Nevertheless, in a report on Al-Asad's meeting with President Amin al-Jumayyil on 26-27 December, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio asserted that the Syrian leader rejected Al-Jumayyil's proposal to agree to the deployment of UNIFIL up to the Al-Awwali River because this would constitute submission to Israel.

Israel and the Palestinians

Replying to a question in the Knesset, Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres made it clear that Israel is still willing to allow assassinated PLO official Fahd al-Qawasimi's body to be buried in Hebron in exchange for the return of Israel's missing soldiers, Jerusalem radio reported. Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told the Knesset that Israel will agree to the transfer of Al-Qawasimi's body if the PLO provides information about the fate of the missing IDF soldiers, according to IDF radio. Meanwhile, a PLO official cited by AFP asserted that the "Black September" group which claimed responsibility for the assassination is directed by the intelligence department of the Syrian Air Force. In Damascus, a PFLP-General Command spokesman denied PLO official Hani al-Hasan's accusation that the General Command was involved in the assassination, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

Inter-Arab Affairs

King Husayn returned to Jordan after his visit to Saudi Arabia for talks on the current Arab situation and bilateral relations, Amman radio reported. Jordanian sources cited by AFP viewed Husayn's talks with King Fahd as "very important," noting that the two monarchs discussed the Iran-Iraq war, the general Middle East situation, and cooperation between Jordan and the PLO.

In a related commentary, Cairo radio indicated that Husayn's visit to Saudi Arabia was the first part of a tour of Arab countries in which he will attempt to overcome problems obstructing the convening of an Arab summit conference and pave the way for a joint Arab move on all regional issues. Expressing support for Husayn's view that the Arab League should renounce the principle of Arab unanimity in decisionmaking, the radio stressed that holding a dialogue with Syria and Libya over the PLO or Gulf issues would be a waste of time and that convening the summit conference should not be contingent upon the approval of all member states. The summit should be convened by any number of members and its first decision should be to invite Egypt to attend, the radio added.

As for current Libyan-Syrian contacts, JANA said that Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's message delivered to President al-Asad on 1 January was concerned with the "gaps" facing Palestinian action. Earlier, in remarks to Palestinian students reported by JANA, Al-Qadhdhafi called for a "new rebellion" in Palestinian ranks and for the abolition of all the "traditional" Palestinian leaderships, asserting that the Palestinian situation is bad because of the "vacancy" in the Palestinian leadership which has not been filled since Yasir 'Arafat "pulled out" of the resistance.

Afghanistan

Soviet planes inadvertently bombed one of their own military convoys in the Herat region recently, destroying eight vehicles and killing "many" soldiers, according to a report from Afghanistan cited by Karachi radio.

Western Sahara

An SDAR communique reported by Algiers radio claimed that Polisario forces killed or wounded 120 Moroccan troops in the Western Sahara during an attack launched on 31 December.

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Najibollah, Others Address Tribal Assembly

LD022013 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] A glorious tribal assembly of the country's fraternal nationalities was held today in the conference hall of the state information services to mark the 20th founding anniversary of the PDPA. The meeting was attended by Najibollah, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and head of the state information services. A BAKHTAR correspondent reports that Najibollah said: [announcer-read] It is gratifying that all of us are gathered today to exchange views. Our freedom-loving and courageous people during the past centuries and many thousands of years of history, have have stood against oppression, despotism and barbarism many times. History is a witness to the uprising of our people against oppressive rulers and despots [words indistinct]; finally, by creating the PDPA, the party of the working class and all workers of the country, whose 20th glorious anniversary is being marked today, they made the April revolution victorious.

Najibollah then spoke in detail about the April revolution and its gains. He said: Representatives, chiefs and elders of the country's fraternal nationalities: Let us accomplish our religious and conscientious duty vis-a-vis those who fell prey to deception and have left their homeland, and once again invite them to return to their indigenous homeland, to work and struggle for the construction of a new, developed and blossoming Afghanistan, which is only the lofty aspiration of the PDPA.

The BAKHTAR correspondent adds that Bazowan Shenwari then spoke on behalf of the participants of the assembly, congratulating the party Central Committee and Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, on the 20th founding anniversary of the PDPA. He pledged full cooperation with the revolutionary party and government in the construction of a new and blossoming society.

The correspondent adds that the assembly was also attended by Bariq Shafi'i, member of the PDPA Central Committee and vice chairman of the NFF Central Council; Mohammad 'Awaz Nabizada, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee and deputy minister of the Ministry of Nationalities and Tribal Affairs.

The assembly ended after offering prayers for the progress and development of the beloved homeland under the leadership of the revolutionary party and government.

Communications Minister Opens TV Transmitter

LD030304 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Nangarhar Province television [transmitting station] was opened in a ceremony today by Aslam Watanjar, PDPA Central Committee Politburo member and minister of communication.

At the ceremony Aslam Watanjar conveyed best wishes and sincere greetings from the PDPA, the party Politburo, and Babrak Karmal, PDPA Central Committee general secretary and DRA Revolutionary Council president, to the people of this region and congratulated the workers of Nangarhar on the opening of the television station.

He added: Reaction and imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism, are attempting to create barriers on the path of our country's — revolutionary Afghanistan's — progress and development. However, despite reaction and imperialism's resistance, our toiling people, under the leadership of the PDPA, continuously forge ahead and pass further on the road to progress.

Aslam Watanjar added: The introduction of Nangarhar television, which is evidence of other fundamental transformations and enormous progress, is another proof for our claim.

A relevant source said this station is one of eight given to the DRA through the free-of-charge assistance of the friendly country, the USSR.

The television unit of Nangarhar is equipped with the most modern machinery.

The ceremony was attended by members of the Nangarhar provincial party committee, sarandoy and 11th Division commanders' cadres, and party activists, government department staffs, officials and National Fatherland Front members, social organizations, and the working people of Jalalabad City.

According to another report, Aslam Watanajar, accompanied by the head of the Eastern Zone, provincial party committee secretary and Nangarhar Province governor, this afternoon visited the graveyard of the martyrs of the revolutionary path and laid a wreath there after offering prayers.

Soviet Planes Said To Bomb Own Convoy

BK030551 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] According to a report received from Afghanistan, Soviet planes inadvertently bombed one of their own military convoys in the Herat region recently, destroying eight military vehicles and killing many soldiers. According to another report, there have been three clashes between Soviet-Karmal troops and mujahidin around Herat city.

IRNA Reports Attack on Soviet Bases in Kabul

LD021427 Tehran IRNA in English 1344 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] New Delhi, Jan. 2, IRNA — On the fifth anniversary of Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, mujahidin resistance forces attacked various government and Soviet bases in Kabul this week, according to reliable sources here.

Soviet airlifts to and from the Afghan capital have reportedly risen, indicating an increase in the number of dead soldiers being flown back to the Soviet Union and an upsurge in the number of troops coming in.

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Lebanon

Israeli Air Force planes successfully raided a terrorist base in the Al-Biqa' area and all returned safely, Jerusalem radio announced on 9 January. However, the planes were "intercepted by intensive ground fire," according to the Voice of Lebanon radio.

Earlier, implementation of the security plan for the coastal road and al-Kharrub area got under way with the deployment of two Internal Security Force units in Iqlim al-Kharrub while another unit began to bulldoze the earth barrier on the highway in Al-Damur, Beirut radio reported. The Progressive Socialist Party no longer has roadblocks on the coastal road, which must be open for the national resistance forces because Israel intends to remain in the south, PSP leader Walid Junblatt declared in remarks cited by Voice of the Mountain radio. However, according to Radio Free Lebanon, Junblatt maintained that while "little concessions" would be made on the coastal road plan, the PSP would never give up Al-Damur and Al-Na'imah. Moreover, he urged that the PSP and the Amal movement unite in the cause of overthrowing the Lebanese regime.

As for IDF withdrawal negotiations, President Amin Al-Jumayyil discussed ways to overcome difficulties in the suspended Al-Naqurah talks in a telephone conversation with the UN secretary general, Beirut radio reported, adding that the UN leader promised to send his political affairs assistant to Lebanon to work on the issue. Earlier, Jerusalem radio predicted that expected stepped-up UN contacts have a good chance of success, and that they will result in a distinction being made between the issues of UNIFIL and IDF deployment. Since the Israeli defense establishment does not consider the talks at an end, another round may start next week, according to Jerusalem television. Israel's Prime Minister's Office and defense quarters understand the need to change the IDF deployment and now must convince the Likud ministers of this, the television asserted, noting that Radio Free Lebanon announced that Lebanon has proposed that the talks be renewed.

Israeli Airlift of Ethiopian Jews

No economic problem or domestic, geographical, or political obstacles can stop or postpone the rescue of Ethiopian Jews, President Shim'on Peres asserted to the Knesset in a statement broadcast on Jerusalem radio.

Jordan

USSR Arms Deal — On the basis of "current realities," arms relations with the Soviet Union will continue to develop because Moscow does not impose political conditions before making a weapons deal, Amman's *AL-RA'Y* stated. The United States' recent warning of the consequences of the Jordanian-Soviet air defense system agreement emanated from an "arrogant and stupid mentality," the paper charged, going on to express respect for the "clean Soviet hand which is extended in friendship."

Terrorism, Security — As for last week's assassination of PLO Executive Committee member Fahd al-Qawasimi in Amman, sources cited by Dubayy's *AL-BAYAN* disclosed that the culprits were arrested on 7 January and are under "intense interrogation." Security forces arrested two other men who pursued the deputy PNC chairman after Al-Qawasimi's funeral, the paper added.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

The Iraqi Air Force launched three successful raids against maritime targets near Khark Island on 8 January, according to a military statement broadcast on Voice of the Masses radio. Citing an AP report, Tehran radio noted that Iraq "claimed to have attacked one oil tanker" in the Gulf.

Pakistan, Afghanistan

Pakistan rejected the "totally false and baseless" DRA charge that Pakistani militiamen entered Paktia Province with an armed group on 28 December, stating that Pakistani Armed Forces have never violated DRA territorial boundaries, Karachi radio reported. Last week, the mujahidin caused heavy damage in an attack on the Interior Ministry building in Kabul, according to Afghan sources cited by IRNA. Moreover, the mujahidin blew up two oil pipelines in Herat Province, the sources claimed, adding that Soviet forces recently shot 20 residents of Herat for supporting the mujahidin.

Mojahedin Attack Ministry of Interior in Kabul ..... I 3
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Clandestine: Regime's Policy of Terrorism Assailed *[National Voice of Iran]* ..... I 4
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Delegations Arrive for PDPA Anniversary

LD082137 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Delegations of a number of friendly and fraternal parties arrived today in Kabul to take part in the ceremony marking the 20th anniversary of the PDPA.

BAKHTAR reports that the following delegations arrived today:

The CPSU delegation led by Inamdzhan Buzrukovich Usmankhodzhayev, first secretary of Uzbek SSR Communist Party Central Committee;

the delegation of India's National Congress Party led by Bali Ram Bhagat, secretary and chairman for external relations of India's National Congress Party;

the delegation of Vietnam's Communist Party led by Nguyen Thanh Binh, secretary of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee;

the delegation of the Communist Party of Cuba led by Julian Rizo Alvarez, member of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee Secretariat;

the delegation of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party of Syria led by ('Abd Hilal), member of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party of Syria;

the PZPR delegation led by Stanislaw Opalko, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo;

the delegation of the Communist Party of Romania [RCP] led by Ilie Verdet, member of the Executive Political Committee and secretary of the RCP Central Committee;

the delegation of Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP], led by Emil Khristov, secretary of the BCP Central Committee;

the delegation of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, [MPRP] led by Mangaljabyn Dash, secretary of MPRP Central Committee;

the delegation of the Korean Workers Party led by Yang Hyong-sop, member of the Korean Workers Party Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

the delegation of the SED led by Wolfgang Beyreuther, member of SED Central Committee, chairman of the Afghan-GDR Friendship Society and representative of the GDR Parliament;

the delegation of Lao People's Revolutionary Party led by Saman Vignaket, secretary of this party's Central Committee;

the delegation of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party led by Men Saman, deputy head of the External Affairs Commission of this party's Central Committee;

the delegation of the Yemeni Socialist Party led by Sultan Muhammad al-Dawsh, member of the party's Central Committee and secretary general of the Confederation of PDRY Trade Unions;

the delegation of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia led by Nesibu Taye, member of the party's Central Committee and ambassador of Ethiopia in Moscow;

the delegation of Communist Party of India, (Marxist) led by E.M.S. Namboodiripad, secretary general of this party's Central Committee;

the delegation of Iranian Tudeh Party;

the delegation of Iranian People's Feda'i-yen;

the delegation of the Communist Party of India, led by (Moqeem Farouqi), member of this party's National Assembly;

the delegation of Syrian Communist Party led by (Ramoshi Khofera) member of this party's Central Committee Politburo;

the delegation of the Communist Party of Germany led by Hans-Juergen (Hang), member of this party's leadership;

the delegation of the Communist Party of Saudi Arabia led by Ahmad Musa, secretary general of the Saudi Communist Party Central Committee;

the delegation of the Sandinista National Liberation Front, led by (Bayar Dosalimoron);

the delegation of the Danish Communist Party, led by Margit Hansen;

the delegation of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party; led by (Pedro Ka'ela).

The above delegations from the friendly countries were welcomed at Kabul airport by Saleh Mohammad Ziray, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; and Mahmud Barialay, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary in charge of the PDPA Central Committee's International Relations Department.

Soviet Forces Said Preparing 'Major Assault'

TA081615 London BBC World Service in English 1600 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Western diplomats in India and Pakistan say that several thousand Soviet troops in Afghanistan have been sent to regions bordering Iran and Pakistan, where Afghan guerrillas have established strongholds. The diplomats say it appears that the Soviet forces are preparing for a major assault on the rebels. The guerrillas are said to have suffered setbacks in recent fighting with Soviet and Afghan Government troops in the region between the capital Kabul and the Pakistan border, and also in the Panjsher valley to the north.

BAKHTAR: U.S. Organizing Contras-Afghan Force

LD090606 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0433 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Kabul, January 8, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes:

The Reagan administration has staged another stratagem spearheaded at waging undeclared wars against the developing countries in the form of international criminal syndicate.

To organise criminal syndicate, the Reagan administratiion has paved the grounds for the ever further visits of the Afghan counter-revolutionary elements to Latin America. Several such visits have been organized in 1984 and the visit of the Afghan counter-revolutionary elements to Honduras constitutes one of such visits. A seminar was arranged in Honduras aimed at exchanging of terroristic experiences between the Afghan counter-revolutionary elements and Contras.

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Lebanon

Israeli Withdrawal Decision — In further comment on the decision to withdraw in three stages, Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres warned of the danger of a "massacre" following the IDF's departure, noting that this is one reason why Israel has sought to reach an agreement with Lebanon and Syria, Jerusalem radio reported. Meanwhile, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told UN Under Secretary Brian Urquhart that Israel intends to return to the Al-Naqurah talks, which are regarded by Israeli security sources as an official channel for the technical coordination of the IDF's evacuation, according to Jerusalem television. As for the IDF's interim deployment in the Al-Litani River-Al-Nabatiyah area, the Israeli chief of staff told the television that this "will not be an exact line" in terms of IDF activities. The Israeli dailies *HA'ARETZ* and *THE JERUSALEM POST* subsequently confirmed that no permanent installations or roads will be built along the interim line. Meanwhile, the IDF will offer to sell its installations in the Sidon area to UNIFIL or the Lebanese Army, the papers noted. On the timing of the withdrawals, *HA'ARETZ* said the Israelis are planning to complete the first phase by 18 February, the second phase in April, and the return to the international border in July.

In a statement carried by the radio, Prime Minister Rashid Karami urged the Lebanese to avoid "incidents" that may be "exploited" by Israel in order to delay its withdrawal. Karami, who had just met with the UN's Brian Urquhart, also reaffirmed that Lebanon finds "no justification" for any UNIFIL role north of the Al-Litani River, adding that responsibility for security in the Sidon area will fall on the Lebanese Government, which plans to send its Army into the evacuated area.

In other reaction to the Israeli decision, Damascus radio warned that Israel will seek to retain a political foothold in the country as well as a military foothold by arming its "agents." In Cairo, the Egyptian foreign minister stated that the Israeli withdrawal will be "a step along the correct course" if it is "real and comprehensive" rather than "cosmetic," MENA reported.

Security — Two explosions in West Beirut killed 4 people and injured 26 others, Voice of Lebanon radio announced. In another development, French observers began vacating positions in south and West Beirut in response to the recent assassination of two French observers in the southern suburb, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon.

Egypt

Tabah Talks — Cairo radio announced 27 January as the new date for the start of Tabah talks with Israel.

Mubarak Greece Visit — President Husni Mubarak departed 16 January for a 2-day visit to Greece, MENA reported.

Sokolov Visit — Soviet Defense Minister Sergey Sokolov will visit Cairo the end of January for talks on defense issues, according to Beirut Voice of Lebanon radio. The radio speculated that Egyptian officials will ask Sokolov to resume Soviet "military aid." Monitored Egyptian and Soviet media have not mentioned any such visit.

Iraq

The secretary of the Kurdistan Revolutionary Party's Central Committee was stripped of his party membership, the London Arabic newspaper *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* reported from Baghdad. A party statement gave no reasons for the "final expulsion," which followed last week's emergency party conference.

Afghanistan

A Foreign Ministry spokesman, cited by Kabul radio, denied Pakistan's claims that DRA planes bombed Chitral areas on 7 and 8 January. In turn, describing them as "false and mischievous," a Pakistan Foreign Ministry spokesman dismissed DRA charges that border militia fired on Chamkani and Bangash residents on 10 January, according to Karachi radio.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,973 ..... I 4
Iraq Executes 67 Muslims; Army Desertions Continue ..... I 4
Members of Outlawed Kurdish Party Surrender ..... I 4
Counterrevolutionary Leader Hanged at Evin Prison ..... I 4
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Clandestine Supports Esfahan Steel Workers *[National Voice of Iran]* ..... I 5

Karmal Greets New Leader of Pakistan's NDP

LD152106 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Abdul Wali Khan, national leader of the Pushtuns, was recently appointed chairman of the National Democratic Party [of Pakistan] by the party's elective congress. His election as chairman of the National Democratic Party [NDP] is regarded as a major and important step for strengthening the democratic movement in Pakistan.

The PDPA and the people of Afghanistan welcome with much pleasure the election of Wali Khan as chairman of the NDP.

Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, has sent the following congratulatory telegram on the occasion of Wali Khan's election as chairman of the NDP:

Dear friend and brother Wali Khan: We in Afghanistan have heard with much pleasure the news of your election as the chairman of the NDP.

On behalf of the PDPA, the revolutionary people of new Afghanistan, and myself, I send my best congratulations and heartfelt wishes on this occasion.

The PDPA and the free and heroic Afghan people appreciate your active life, full of struggle for liberation. Together with your honorable father, Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, the great leader of the Pushtuns, and as an outstanding national and progressive personality, and as chairman of the National People's Party, you have devoted your life to attaining peace and friendship between the people of our region, to enhancing the national and social conscience and tribal unity, to the unity and cohesion of all national, democratic and progressive forces for independence, democracy and progress, to the struggle against British colonialism and imperialism, and against national and social oppression, against reaction and U.S. imperialism and Chinese hegemonism.

We always remember the difficult struggle to which all your conscientious life has been devoted. You have seen the jails of imperialism and the regimes of terror and military suppression and have suffered many difficulties and pains as well.

The PDPA, all social organizations, the National Fatherland Front, all patriots of our homeland, the free-born Afghan people and myself, highly assess and appreciate your support for the April revolution, particularly its new development stage, which has been registered in the history of the national emancipation of Afghans as a major historic point.

We in revolutionary Afghanistan have special and unbreakable interest in the destiny of our brothers on the basis of the firm and profound national historic ties that exist between our people.

We believe that your election to the NDP leadership will bring further strengthening of the unity and cohesion of all national, progressive, and democratic forces as well as the liberating movement of antireaction, antinational and social oppression, antidespotism, anticolonialism and imperialism; and will effectively assist the restoration of freedom and democracy.

Your stand for the restoration of peace, security, freedom, democracy, and progress in the region, fully conforms with the objectives of the national and democratic revolution of Afghanistan.

It is an undeniable fact that the interference and aggressive provocations of imperialism, reaction, and hegemonism and the undeclared war against revolutionary, independent and nonaligned Afghanistan, only serve the evil objectives of U.S. imperialism and the reactionary regressive forces.

I point out again that Afghanistan has always stood for, and will continue to stand for, peace and friendship between the people of our region — including the people of Pakistan. We seriously desire the solution of issues around the DRA through direct talks with Pakistan on the basis of the DRA Government proposals dated 1980 and 1981, on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence, removal of tension in the region, the principle of nonaggression, and noninterference in each others' internal affairs.

This peaceful policy of the party and our revolutionary government has been chosen on the basis of rational thought, realistic vision, and political logic.

The revolution of the brave and free-born people of Afghanistan will forge ahead and is invincible.

Again I express my best wishes, fraternal and sincere greetings with the hope for your further victories.

[Signed] Your brother, Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee.

Dost Outlines DRA's Foreign Policy Principles

LD152209 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] DRA Minister of Foreign Affairs Shah Muhammad Dost granted the following interview to APN in Kabul on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the PDPA's founding:

In its first political policy, published in 1966, the PDPA announced that its foreign policy was based on work for lasting peaceand the prevention of another world war. After the victory of the April revolution in 1978, when the PDPA was transformed into a ruling party, it renewed its pledge and loyalty to the foreign policy principles of the party and the DRA Government.

This fact was formulated within the framework of the action program approved in 1982, and in the Basic Principles of the DRA, Afghanistan's temporary constitution.

The foreign policy of the PDPA and the Afghan state rests on broad international cooperation and the freedom, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity of countries. In this way we are fully pledged to the principles of nonalignment and the UN

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Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Air Force attacked a "medium-sized target" near Khark Island on 24 January, dealing a "destructive" blow, an Iraqi military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. Another "medium-sized target" was hit south of Khark Island on 23 January, according to a military communique carried by Voice of the Masses radio.

Lebanon

At the resumption of the Al-Naqurah military talks with Israel on 24 January, the Lebanese delegation affirmed that the Army is prepared to take over the Sidon area, Beirut radio reported. Following a 23 January Cabinet session Prime Minister Rashid Karami, in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio, maintained that Israel's Al-Naqurah proposals were "incomplete and inconsistent" with the Lebanese demand for a timetable. When the talks resumed on 24 January the Israeli delegation again contended that there is no timetable, according to Jerusalem radio.

Gromyko Mideast Visit

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko will shortly visit Kuwait, Iraq, Jordan, Egypt, and Syria for talks on the latest developments in the Middle East crisis and to discuss the possibility of convening an international conference under UN auspices, KUNA reported citing sources in Amman. Monitored Soviet sources have not mentioned a Gromyko tour of the Middle East.

Egypt

GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer, who is on a 3-day visit to Egypt, discussed bilateral relations and international issues with President Husni Mubarak and Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, MENA reported.

Israel

Agreement was reached at the prime minister's office over an economic "package deal" for the next 8 months, Jerusalem radio announced. Subsidies for all types of fuel will be cancelled and fuel prices will rise immediately by around 34 percent.

PLO

Cairo's *AL-JUMHURIYAH* disclosed that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has moved his residence in Tunisia from the seafront to central Tunis for security reasons, MENA reported. Fatah Central Committee Member Salah Khalaf told the newspaper that the Syrians and Libyans had planned to assassinate 'Arafat in a naval landing operation. However, the Soviet Union recently asked 'Arafat to end his "media campaign" against Syria, according to Kuwait's *AL-QABAS*.

OPEC

The OPEC deputy secretary general, in a statement cited by OPECNA, denied reports that OPEC experts agreed on proposals for a $2.50 reduction in the oil marker price during their recent meeting in Riyadh. Although OPEC sources said the experts had also made "appreciable progress" in adjusting the imbalance in price differentials between heavy and light crudes, "informed sources" in London contended that the meeting in Riyadh failed to solve the issue of price differentials, according to KUNA.

Morocco

Hassan Visit — Interior Minister Driss Basri confirmed that King Hassan II will visit the Western Sahara on the 3 March anniversary of his accession to the throne, according to MAP. The king's visit will "witness a new green march" in which the whole country will participate to prove its national unity and unanimity over the "irreversible" Moroccan nature of the Western Sahara, Basri stated.

Criticism of Algeria — A Rabat paper cited by MAP sharply criticized Algeria for pushing the cause of Polisario and "blocking any peace initiative" at a time when all the Maghreb countries have agreed to hold a summit.

Iran

Musavi in Cuba — Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi, during a stopover in Cuba on his way to Nicaragua, discussed bilateral relations with Fidel Castro, Tehran radio reported. Musavi will spend 3 days in Nicaragua and will meet with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, the radio added.

Pakistan-DRA

Pakistan has protested to Afghanistan over further airspace violations and bombings by DRA aircraft in the Arandu region on 21, 22, and 23 January, according to reports by Karachi radio.

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Mujahidin Envoy Appeals for Health, Education Aid

LD250021 Rabat MAP in French 1530 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Rabat; 24 Jan (MAP) — Shaykh Mohamed al-Azrak, envoy of the Islamic Alliance of Afghan Mujahidin has appealed to the international community and in particular to the Muslim countries for adequate assistance to the children of Afghan immigrants particularly in education and health care.

Interviewed by MAP, Shaykh al-Azrak who is currently visiting Morocco said that this assistance is a duty for every Muslim, especially as this assistance creates no problems of any kind because it concerns the education of Afghan children by offering them scholarships for their studies.

The Afghan mujahidin receive no external training and have training centers at the front. They fight and train at the same time because they are proud of their religion and of the just character of their cause.

Speaking on the Afghan conflict, he said that the means which the fighters deem right consist of "resisting the foreign invasion by force and faith till victory," and said that the fighters are capable of waging resistance despite the presence in Afghanistan of nearly 230,000 Soviet troops, not to mention the Kabul regular army, several elements of which have started to joint the mujahidin ranks.

After repeating the mujahidin's rejection of any peace negotiations, "given the fact that there is nothing to negotiate with the Soviets," he states that "the sole solution" consists in the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghan territory, thus enabling the Afghan people to "live in peace and freedom under the flag of Islam."

Shaykh al-Azrak expressed satisfaction with his visit to Morocco, "a peace- and justice-loving country throughout its history" and praised the stand of both officials and leaders of the parties.

BAKHTAR Cites Commentary on Pakistani Elections

LD231024 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 23 Jan 85

["Election Comedy" — BAKHTAR headline]

[Text] Kabul, January 22, BAKHTAR — Few weeks have not yet elapsed from the mock referendum of Ziaul Haq that he played another gimmick of announcing elections to national and provincial assemblies, writes daily *HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR* commenting on the elections comedy in Pakistan.

The daily adds that undoubtedly the outcome of these elections can be nothing else, but ignominy like the so-called referendum held on December 19 on the issue of Islamisation.

The fascist regime of Pakistan is taking anti-people measures. General Zia by using various empty pretexts has several times put off the holding of free and fair general elections.

Notwithstanding the threats and pressures imposed on Pakistanis by the military regime, non-participation of an overwhelming majority of the people in the referendum was a great defeat to the regime.

Despite abusing the religion of Islam to achieve their sinister designs of perpetuating its military dictatorship and the imposition of military pressures, in most of the voting areas even 5 percent of the people did not vote. On the last hours of the day of referendum, Zia's cliques gave order to their men to rush to the polls and to cast votes in favour of Zia without taking the accepted norms into consideration.

In short, Zia's referendum ended in disgrace. However, in the final analysis he declared himself to be "chosen" to remain in power for another five years.

This time the dictator general has announced that the political parties are not eligible to participate in the elections. He has decided so because he realizes the fact that the overwhelming majority of Pakistani people will be voting for the candidates of the opposition coalition, the movement for the restoration of democracy.

Whatever may be the results, these elections cannot give a legal shape to the military regime. Ziaul Haq has trampled all the rights and freedoms of the Pakistani people ever since he usurped the power through a military coup d'etat.

Contrary to the will of the overwhelming majority of the people, the regime being the gendarme of imperialism, has become a tool in the undeclared war waged by imperialism against the DRA and a factor for the destabilization of the situation in the region. The militaristic policy pursued by the Pakistani rulers at the behest of the U.S. imperialism, chinese hegemonism and the reaction of the region, is in contradiction with the interests of the people of Pakistan and has aroused their wrath and indignation.

Following the mock referendum, the protest demonstrations made by Pakistani people showed once again that the people of Pakistan have realised the anti-people essence of Zia's regime and that they are not ready to put up any longer with the dictators rule.

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Lebanon

Karami in Damascus — Prime Minister Rashid Karami held talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on recent developments in the Lebanese situation, including current efforts to secure Israel's withdrawal without delay, Damascus radio reported. The suspension of the Al-Naqurah negotiations and Israel's announcement of its "partial withdrawal" topped the agenda of their talks, according to Beirut radio. Karami also met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Lebanese Public Works and Transport Minister Walid Junblatt to discuss the security situation in Beirut and the Al-Kharrub region, Beirut radio noted. Earlier, in remarks broadcast by the radio, Karami reaffirmed Lebanon's opposition to the deployment of UNIFIL north of the Al-Litani River, adding that UNIFIL should only be deployed along the Lebanese-Israeli border.

Security Situation — Both the Phalangist Lebanese Forces and the Progressive Socialist Party have "completely evacuated" their military positions in the Al-Kharrub region, according to a Phalangist security official cited by Voice of Lebanon radio. However, the radio also reported that around 2,000 armed Palestinians recently entered the Al-Kharrub and Al-Shuf regions.

Iran-Iraq War

Although IRNA reported that over 200 Iraqi soldiers were killed in Iraq's 27-28 January attack on Majnun Island, an Iraqi commander cited by INA contended that Iraqi casualties amounted to 7 wounded. He also said the Iranians subsequently launched five abortive attempts to retake positions captured by the Iraqis. Meanwhile, an Iranian communique broadcast by Tehran radio warned Iraq not to retaliate for its "complete defeat" at Majnun by attacking civilian targets. In another development, Iraq's President Saddam Husayn ordered the release of the last group of POW's to the International Red Cross committee, according to an official statement cited by Voice of the Masses radio.

As for the Gulf, an Iranian Supreme Defense Council spokesman, in an IRNA interview, accused Iraq of trying to draw other Gulf states into the war by spreading its attacks southward.

Tabah Talks

After 3 days of talks on the Tabah issue in Beersheba, Israel and Egypt were unable to reach agreement on the sovereignty issue or Egypt's demand for international arbitration, Jerusalem radio reported. The two sides did agree on some aspects of the MFO's role in the area, the radio noted. Egypt and Israel also agreed to continue talks in the next few weeks, according to IDF radio.

Western Sahara

A Saharan Information Ministry statement cited by Algiers radio expressed concern over alleged Moroccan-U.S. joint military maneuvers in the Moroccan border region close to the Western Sahara.

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Soviet-Afghan Friendship Society Officials Meet

LD290800 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Kabul, January 28, BAKHTAR — 'Abdol Majid Sarboland, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA and vice-president of Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society, had a meeting with A. Aliyev, vice-president of the Soviet-Afghan Friendship Society and the head of a delegation of the Union of the Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries.

They talked on matters of mutual [word indistinct] as well as on furthering cooperation between the two friendship societies.

The delegation is here to participate in the celebrations of 25th founding anniversary of the Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society.

Council of Ministers Discusses Plan Fulfillment

LD292315 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] The BAKHTAR Information Agency reports that in a recent plenary session, the DRA Council of Ministers discussed topics concerning the implementation of the DRA socioeconomic development plan and budget during the 9 months of 1363 [1363 began 20 March, 1984]. The results of discussion and assessment in this regard show that in the process of the country's consistent relative growth, a majority of indices have been realised in accordance with the plan and some have been exceeded.

The overfulfillment of the following plan goals are worth mentioning: the production of cereals, including wheat, barley, and corn, and the goals for sugar cane, oil-producing plants, vegetables, melons, and fruits have been completely realized. The distribution of insecticides and pesticides to the country's farmers and livestock breeders were performed 57 percent above plan, a growth of 68 percent in comparison with the same period last year. The area activity of mechanized agricultural stations has been realized 40 percent above plan and 38 percent above that realized during the same 9 months last year.

The sale of surplus products of cooperatives in domestic and foreign markets, in comparison to the same period last year, has been increased 2.2 times. The growth in the production value of 50 articles of industrial products included in the plan shows an increase of 7 percent compared with the same period last year: natural gas — 3.8 percent; chemical fertilizer — 18.4 percent; building stones — 8.2 percent; reinforced concrete — 2.6 percent; bread and bread products — 8 percent; meat — 15.4 percent; printing industry — 21.8 percent; and carpentry — 2.2 times more than plan has been realized.

There has been an increase of 5.5 percent in state transport over plan which shows an increase of 28 percent in comparison with the same period last year.

Literacy activities have been realized 7.4 percent above plan and 61 percent compared with last year.

The plan for state budget income has been realized 110.5 percent, from which internal resources show an increase of 9.8 percent more than plan and 15.9 percent in comparison with last year.

In the course of assessing the results of the realization of the state plan and budget during the 9 months of 1363, it was stated that the DRA Government and its relevant organs have achieved definite successes in pursuing the realization of the PDPA action program and the PDPA Central Committee plenum resolutions concerning the growth of the economy and culture in the country during the 9 months of the current year. The collectives of the departments, administrations, and enterprises have also displayed good examples of creative activity through the expansion of work competitions on the occasion of the 20th founding anniversary of the PDPA.

BAKHTAR adds that the Council of Ministers also outlined defects and shortcomings in the work of the ministries, departments, and establishments concerning the implementation of the state plan and budget during the 9 months of the current year and recommended specific tasks for their elimination.

Politburo's Ziray Makes Inspection Trip to Herat

LD292128 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Saleh Muhammad Ziray, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the party Central Committee, took part in a joint meeting of the Herat Province party and state organs and spoke about the social and economic policies of the party and the state.

Saleh Muhammad Ziray also assessed the work of the meeting and issued instructions to the party's responsible officials in the province concerning the realization of the tasks entrusted to them in implementing the resolutions of the PDPA Central Committee plenum and other party and state documents.

Saleh Muhammad Ziray returned to Kabul yesterday afternoon after inspecting joint party and state activities in Herat and the province's socioeconomic performance.

Delegation Attends Former Rebel's Funeral

LD291744 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Our compatriots are aware that those who, for various reasons, once stood in the ranks of the enemies of the revolution and homeland, after realizing the truth of the revolution, came on the side of the revolutionary authority. A large number of them, together with the country's courageous Armed Forces, are fighting heroically against the counterrevolutionary bands.

One such man was Sher Aqa Chunghar, who, after the victory of the new development stage of the April revolution, stood in the ranks of the revolution in Herat Province and fought courageously side by side with the DRA Armed Forces against the mercenary counterrevolutionary bands in this province while earnestly defending the gains of the revolution.

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Iran-Iraq War

Units from Iraq's 2d Army Corps launched a "sweeping attack" early on 31 January, occupying new positions, inflicting heavy losses on the Iranians, and capturing large numbers of enemy troops and weapons, an Iraqi military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. The new Iraqi attack was in the central sector, according to a related INA report. Monitored Iranian media have not thus far mentioned the offensive. Earlier, Iraq announced another raid on shipping in the Gulf, claiming in a military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio that Iraqi planes delivered an "accurate and effective" strike against a "very large maritime target" on 30 January.

Meanwhile, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn reviewed the military situation during talks with visiting King Husayn and other Jordanian officials, including the Jordanian Armed Forces commander, according to Amman radio. The Iraqi-Jordanian talks also focused on bilateral relations and the Arab situation, voice of the Masses radio noted.

OPEC

Nine OPEC states have agreed on a new price structure in which the maximum differential between heavy and light crudes will be reduced to $2.40 by cutting prices of the lighter oils while maintaining Arab heavy crude at $26.50 per barrel, according to an official press release on the Geneva meeting carried by OPECNA. Algeria, Iran, and Libya "dissociated" themselves from the decision and Gabon abstained. The agreement reduces the price of Arab light to $28 per barrel, and the UAE petroleum minister stated in remarks reported by SPA that the new price structure abolishes Arab light's role as a "marker" price. His Saudi counterpart, Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, predicted that OPEC will maintain its current production ceiling and disclosed that he has commissioned a Dutch firm to audit OPEC output and prices, according to OPECNA. Meanwhile, the Algerian energy minister criticized the "unfair" new price structure in a statement cited by Algiers radio, adding that Algeria will henceforth fix its oil prices in accordance with the market situation.

Lebanon

Damascus Talks — Syria and Lebanon agree on the need to bolster the unity government by implementing security measures in West Beirut and opening the Beirut-Damascus and coastal highways, Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam stated at a press conference broadcast by Damascus television after further talks with Prime Minister Rashid Karami and other Lebanese leaders. Karami confirmed the intention to open the Beirut-Damascus and Beirut-Tripoli highways, telling the journalists that he would begin working on this immediately after his return to Beirut.

Security — A random bombardment by an artillery piece based in the western sector injured six people in East Beirut on 31 January, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon announced. Meanwhile, the IDF has completed the evacuation of all its equipment from the Sidon area and has blown up bunkers and caves formerly used by the PLO, the radio noted.

Israel

Rabin in U.S. — Before examining the possibilities for expanding the peace process, Israel wants to strengthen its economy, solve the Lebanese problem, and improve relations with Egypt, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin stated in remarks broadcast by IDF radio. Rabin noted that he raised this "order of priorities" in his talks with President Ronald Reagan.

West Bank — Israeli military sources reacted "angrily" to an International Commission of Jurists report that accuses Israel of maltreating Arab detainees in the Farah Youth Detention Center near Nabulus, according to Jerusalem radio. The sources said the report is based on "false claims" originating from "hostile organizations" which manipulate legal organizations to spread their propaganda.

Libya

Chad Accusation — Chadian officials have publicized details of a Libyan plot to assassinate Chadian President Hissein Habre last year, Ndjamena radio announced.

Southern Sudan

Forces of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) recently raided Bor, capital of Jonglei province, killing or wounding 45 government soldiers, the clandestine SPLA radio announced.

Afghanistan

A letter from the PDPA Central Committee to the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, broadcast by Kabul radio, urged the PRC to stop interfering in Afghanistan's internal affairs through its "increasing support" for the "counterrevolutionary" bands. The DRA wants friendly and good-neighborly relations with China, the letter stressed, but in order to achieve this the PRC must end its hostility toward the Afghan revolution and stop supporting the rebels, who are currently receiving weapons and training from the Chinese.

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PDPA Letter Accuses China of 'Open War'

LD302244 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] The full text of a letter from the PDPA Central Committee to the Communist Party of China Central Committee:

Comrades:

The PDPA Central Committee deems it necessary, by sending this letter to the Communist Party of China Central Committee, to refer to the daily increasing interference by China in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and its increasing support for the Afghan counterrevolutionary forces. Undeniable facts exist regarding the increase of such support. Among the weapons being seized from the bandits, along with the war technology supplied by the United States and other NATO countries, every day more and more weapons with Chinese markings are seen.

China has set out an open war against the revolutionary regime in Afghanistan. It utilizes lies and slander in this war and helps toward the creation of antagonism against our regime and our people. The representatives of China openly speak about future broad military and other assistance to Afghan counterrevolutionary bands engaged in crimes on Afghan soil. Such a stand inspires righteous criticism.

Worst of all, the People's Republic of China, which itself has experienced the test of tolerating the heavy burden of imperialist oppression, a country who had passed along the hot and difficult path of emancipating revolutionary struggle, has taken such a stand.

We know very well the price paid for the victory of the people's revolution by the working masses of China and sacrifices and deprivations suffered by them.

The People's Liberation Army of China had been forced to forge ahead on a vigorous and long struggle for freedom, first of all, against the Japanese occupiers and then against the Kuomintang forces who had been supported by imperialist forces, mainly the United States.

At that time, as is obvious, the CPC was enjoying the formidable political and other assistance of the Soviet Union, which effectively assisted the Red Army of China in its struggle for the eradication of Japanese and Kuomintang forces in Manchuria in 1945, for the independence of China from the Japanese occupiers, and also against the domination of the Kuomintang.

It appeared that China, in having such a past experience, should have stood up at the start in support of the April revolution of 1978, as the Afghan patriots have been and are fighting, in most aspects, for the same objectives for which thousands of Chinese revolutionaries sacrificed themselves in the years of emancipating revolutionary war.

The PDPA, which has recently formally marked its 20th founding anniversary, had been struggling for more than 10 years in difficult and complex circumstances of secrecy for the victory of the revolution.

We have been and are struggling for the independence of Afghanistan, the emancipation of the people of Afghanistan from the domination of centuries of poverty, ignorance, and backwardness, and from the oppression of landlords and money-lenders, and for the construction of a society free of exploitation of man by man.

The revolution of Afghanistan took place against the despotic regime of Daod and in the name of the people's victory. The revolution at this very moment has brought about many gains as a gift to the people and has the right to be proud of its first gains.

The output of national economic production in 1983 has increased 15 percent in comparison to 1981, including 24 percent growth in government and mixed sectors.

Land and water reforms have forged ahead in Afghanistan. These reforms will raise the living standard of the country's inhabitants. Various economic collective cooperatives are being developed in the life of the people; 308 agricultural cooperatives, 138 consumer and trade cooperatives, and 140 cooperative outlets have been created.

All these are merely the preliminary steps.

Between 1979 and 1983 the wages of government workers and employees were increased twice.

The purchase price of raw cotton and sugar beets from peasants was increased twice. The government is spending large sums in the form of subsidies to stabilize basic commodities needed by the workers and employees. It is also subsidizing bus fares for city inhabitants.

During the past 5 years the number of hospitals increased by 85 percent and the number of physicians by 45 percent. More than one million illiterates were educated and became literate.

The party is following the firm policy of genuine democracy in the country and at this very moment the revolutionary sovereignty in our country is based on the growing and organizing unity of workers and peasants and reflects the fundamental interests of all workers and compatriots of Afghanistan. The creation of this sovereignty is the most important gain of our revolution.

We have now taken a new step for the attraction of an ever broader segment of the working masses to the participation in the affairs of government administration. The first step is being taken in the localities.

In accordance with the new law, the councils, jergas of the people's representatives and their executive committees, will be the new organs of sovereignty and administration in the localities.

The patriots of all nationalities, tribes and clans will be included in the composition of these bodies on a just basis.

The present sovereignty and administration in the localities will be democratized for the purpose of strengthening and consolidating the link of sovereignty with the people and assisting in the